

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: That's right. We disarm them.

SENATOR WESELY: We don't lose additional funds, but what we do is preclude the possibility of losing existing funding, is that correct?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: That's correct.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay. I rise in support of the resolution. You know anybody involved in state legislatures gets concerned about having pressures put on us from the federal government without the chance for us to make decisions on the issues and the best interests of our own states and so I would support the resolution with the understandings I've gotten from Senator Kristensen.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Madam President, colleagues, I wasn't planning to enter into the debate, but I thought we should clarify a couple of things. Senator Kristensen made...was, I guess wondering out loud about whether this was included in any legislation that I had introduced this year and for the record, no, I did not introduce any legislation that dealt with this particular issue and so...and I can't recall any legislation that was brought in this year that dealt with the enactment of this type of legislation, so that for the benefit of the committee at least going through the Judiciary Committee, there was nothing brought in and I think that should be mentioned to the body as well. A second point is that this is kind of a different procedure that the federal government has taken than they have taken in the past. In the past they have either told us that we have to enact this piece of legislation or we will lose federal funds and that's usually one approach. A second approach is where they encourage us to enact a piece of legislation and if we enact a piece of legislation, we will get additional federal funds and this, to my knowledge, is the first time where they have taken the approach where they have asked, actually asked us a question as to whether we would like to see this enacted in our state statutes and I think that it's a good approach. We do have a problem in this state with federal government, especially the criminal area. They enact very tough criminal laws and they expect the U.S. Attorney's Office to prosecute this type of legislation and what we found is that it